

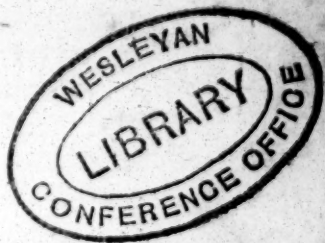
H Y M N S

FOR THE

N A T I V I T Y,

OF

O U R L O R D.



L O N D O N :

Printed and sold at the New-Chapel, City-Road; and at the
Rev. Mr. WESLEY's Preaching-Houses in Town and
Country. 1788.



H Y M N S

FOR THE

N A T I V I T Y, &c.

H Y M N I.

1 **Y**E simple men of heart sincere,
Shepherds, who watch your flocks by night,
Start not to see an angel near,
Nor tremble at his glorious light.

2 An herald from the heavenly king,
I come your every fear to chase;
Good tidings of great joy I bring,
Great joy to all the fallen race.

A 2

3 To

- 3 To you is born on this glad day,
A Saviour, by our host adoréd ;
Our God in Bethlehem survey,
Make hast to worship Christ the Lord.
- 4 By this the Saviour of mankind,
The incarnate God shall be displayéd,
The Babe ye wrappéd in swathes shall find,
And humbly in a manger laid.

H Y M N II.

- 1 **Y**E heavenly choir
Assist me to sing,
And strike the soft lyre,
And honour our king :
His mighty salvation
Demands all our praise,
Our best adoration,
And lofiest lays.

- 2 All glory to God,
Who ruleth on high,
And now hath bestowéd,
And sent from the sky
Christ Jesus the Saviour,
Poor mortals to bless :
The pledge of his favour,
The seal of his peace.

H Y M N III.

- 1 **A**NGELS speak, let men give ear,
Sent from high,
They are nigh,
And forbid our fear.

- 2 News they bring us of salvation,
Sounds of joy
To employ
Every tongue and nation.
- 3 Welcome tidings! to retrieve us
From our fall,
Born for all,
Christ is born to save us.
- 4 Born his creatures to restore,
Abject earth,
Sees his birth,
Whom the heavens adore.
- 5 Wrapp'd in swathes the immortal stranger,
Man with men,
We have seen
Lying in a manger.
- 6 All to God's free-grace is owing ;
We are his
Witnesses,
Poor, and nothing knowing.
- 7 Simple shepherds, us he raises,
Bids us sing,
Christ the King,
And shew forth his praises.
- 8 We have seen the King of glory,
We proclaim
Christ his name,
And record his story.
- 9 Sing we with the host of heaven,
Reconcil'd,
By a child,
Who to us is given.

- 10 Glory be to God the giver,
 Peace and love
 From above
 Reign on earth for ever.

H Y M N IV.

- 1 **G**LORY be to God on high,
 And peace on earth descend ;
 God comes down ; he bows the sky,
 And shews himself our friend !
 God, the invisible, *appears*,
 God, the blest, the great I AM,
 Sojourns in this vale of tears,
 And Jesus is his name.
- 2 Him the angels all ador'd,
 Their Maker and their King ;
 Tidings of their humbled Lord,
 They now to mortals bring ;
 Emptied of his majesty,
 Of his dazzling glories shorn,
 Being's source *begins to be*,
 And God himself is born !
- 3 See the eternal Son of God,
 A mortal son of man,
 Dwelling in an earthly clod,
 Whom heaven cannot contain !
 Stand amaz'd, ye heavens, at this !
 See the Lord of earth and skies !
 Humbled to the dust he is,
 And in a manger lies !
- 4 We the sons of men rejoice,
 The Prince of peace proclaim,
 With heaven's host lift up our voice,
 And shout Immanuel's name :

Kneea

Knees and hearts to him we bow,
 Of our flesh and of our bone,
 Jesus is our brother now,
 And God is all our own!

H Y M N V.

- 1 **L**ET earth and heaven combine,
 Angels and men agree,
 To praise in songs divine
 The incarnate Deity,
 Our God contracted to a span,
 Incomprehensibly made man.
- 2 He laid his glory by,
 He wrapped him in our clay,
 Unmarked by human eye,
 The latent Godhead lay,
 Infant of days he here became ;
 And bore the mild Immanuel's name.
- 3 See in that infant's face
 The depths of Deity,
 And labour while ye gaze,
 To sound the mystery ;
 In vain : ye angels gaze no more,
 But fall and silently adore.
- 4 Unsearchable the love,
 That hath the Saviour brought,
 The grace is far above,
 Or man or angel's thought :
 Suffice for us that God we know,
 Our God is manifest below.
- 5 He deigns in flesh to appear,
 Widest extremes to join,
 To bring our vileness near,
 And make us all divine ;

And

And we the life of God shall know,
For God is manifest below.

- 6 Made perfect first in love,
And sanctified by grace;
We shall from earth remove,
And see his glorious face;
His love shall then be fully showed,
And man shall all be lost in God.

H Y M N VI.

- 1 JOIN all ye joyful nations,
Th' acclaming host of heaven,
This happy morn,
A child is born,
To us a son is given.

The messenger and token
Of God's eternal favour,
God hath sent down,
To us his Son,
An universal Saviour !

- 2 The wonderful Messias,
The joy of every nation,
Jesus is name,
With God the same,
The Lord of all creation.

The Counsellor of sinners,
Almighty to deliver,
The Prince of Peace,
Whose love's increase,
[Shall reign in man for ever;

- 3 Go see the King of glory,
Discern the heavenly stranger,
So poor and mean,
His court an inn,
His cradle is a manger.

Who from his Father's bosom,
But now for us descended,
Who built the skies,
On earth he lies,
With only beasts attended.

- 4 Whom all the angels worship,
Lies hid in human nature ;
Incarnate see
The Deity
The infinite Creator !

See the stupendous blessing,
Which God to us has given ;
A child of man,
In length a span,
Who fills both earth and heaven.

- 5 Gaze on that helpless Object
Of endless adoration !
Those infant hands,
Shall burst our bands,
And work out our salvation ;

Strangle the crooked serpent,
Destroy his works for ever,
And open set
The heavenly gate,
To every true believer.

- 6 Till then thou holy Jesus,
We humbly bow before thee,
Our treasures bring
To serve our King,
And joyfully adore thee :

To thee we gladly render
 Whate'er thy grace hath given,
 Till thou appear,
 In glory here,
 And take us up to heaven.

H Y M N VII.

- 1 **A**LL glory to God, And peace upon earth,
 Be published abroad At Jesus's birth :
 The forfeited favour Of heaven we find
 Restored in the Saviour And Friend of mankind.
- 2 Then let us behold Messias the Lord,
 By prophets foretold, By angels ador'd ;
 Our God's incarnation, With angels proclaim,
 And publish salvation In Jesus's name.
- 3 Our newly-born King By faith we have seen,
 And joyfully sing His goodness to men,
 That all men may wonder At what we impart,
 And thankfully ponder His love in their heart.
- 4 What mov'd the Most High, So greatly to stoop ?
 He comes from the sky Our souls to lift up ;
 That sinners forgiven Might sinless return
 To God and to heaven, Their Maker is born.
- 5 Immanuel's love, Let sinners confess,
 Who comes from above, To bring us his peace ;
 Let every believer His mercy adore,
 And praise him for ever, When time is no more.

HYMN

H Y M N VIII.

- 1 **A** WAY with our fears :
 The Godhead appears,
 In Christ reconciled,
The Father of Mercies in Jesus the child.
- 2 He comes from above,
 In manifest love,
 The desire of our eyes,
The meek Lamb of God in a manger he lies.
- 3 At Immanuel's birth
 What a triumph on earth,
 Yet could it afford
No better a place for its heavenly Lord !
- 4 The Ancient of Days,
 To redeem a lost race,
 From his glory comes down,
Self-humbled to carry us up to a crown.
- 5 Made flesh for our sake,
 That we might partake,
 The nature divine,
And again in his image, his holiness shine ;
- 6 An heavenly birth,
 Experience on earth,
 And rise to his throne,
And live with our Jesus eternally one.
- 7 Then let us believe,
 And gladly receive
 The tidings they bring,
Who publish to sinners, their Saviour and King.
- 8 And

3 And while we are here,
 Our King shall appear,
 His Spirit impart,
 And form his full image of love in our heart.

H Y M N IX.

- 1 **F**ATHER our hearts we lift,
 Up to thy gracious throne,
 And blest thee for the precious gift,
 Of thine incarnate Son :
 The gift unspeakable,
 We thankfully receive,
 And to the world thy goodness tell,
 And to thy glory live.
- 2 Jesus the holy child,
 Doth by his birth declare,
 That God and man are reconciled,
 And one in him we are :
 Salvation through his name
 To all mankind is given,
 And loud his infant cries proclaim,
 A peace 'twixt earth and heaven.
- 3 A peace on earth he brings,
 Which never more shall end :
 The Lord of hosts, the King of Kings,
 Declares himself our friend ;
 Assumes our flesh and blood,
 That we his Spirit may gain ;
 The everlasting Son of God,
 The mortal Son of man.
- 4 His kingdom from above,
 He doth to us impart,
 And pure benevolence and love,
 O'erflow the faithful heart :

7 Changed

Changed in a moment we
The sweet attraction find,
With open arms of charity
Embracing all mankind.

- 5 O might they all receive,
The new-born Prince of peace
And meekly in his spirit live,
And in his love increase!
Till he convey us home,
Cry every soul aloud,
Come, thou desire of nations come,
And take us up to God.

H Y M N X.

- 1 COME, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee:
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

- 2 Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring:
By thy own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone,
By thy all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

H Y M N XI.

- 1 **L**IGHT of those whose dreary dwelling
 Borders on the shades of death,
 Come, and by thy love's revealing,
 Dissipate the clouds beneath :
 The new heaven and earth's Creator,
 In our deepest darkness rise,
 Scattering all the night of nature,
 Pouring eye-sight on our eyes.
- 2 Still we wait for thy appearing,
 Life and joy thy beams impart,
 Chasing all our fears, and cheering
 Every poor benighted heart ;
 Come, and manifest the favour
 God hath for our ransom'd race ;
 Come, thou universal Saviour,
 Come, and bring the gospel-grace.
- 3 Save us in thy great compassion,
 O thou mild, pacific Prince,
 Give the knowledge of salvation,
 Give the pardon of our sins ;
 By thy all-restoring merit,
 Every burthen'd soul release,
 Every weary wandring spirit,
 Guide into thy perfect peace.

H Y M N XII.

- 1 **S**ING, ye ransom'd nations sing,
 Praises to our new-born King,
 Son of man our Maker is,
 Lord of hosts and Prince of peace !

2 Lo !

- 2 Lo! he lays his glory by,
Emptied of his majesty!
See the God who all things made,
Humbly in a manger laid.
- 3 Cast we off our needless fear,
Boldly to the church draw near,
Jesus is our flesh and bone,
God *with us* is all our own.
- 4 Let us then with angels gaze
On our new-born Monarch's face,
With the choir celestial joined,
Shout the Saviour of mankind.
- 5 Son of man, will he despise,
Man's well-meaning sacrifice?
No; with condescending grace
He accepts his creature's praise.
- 6 Will his majesty disdain
The poor shepherd's simple strain:
No; for Israel's Shepherd, he
Loves their artless melody.
- 7 He will not refuse the song
Of the stammering infant's tongue,
Babes he bears humanely mild,
Once himself a little child.
- 8 Let us then our Prince proclaim,
Humbly chaunt Immanuel's name,
Publish at his wondrous birth,
Praise in heaven, and peace on earth.
- 9 Triumph in our Saviour's love,
Till he takes us up above,
All his majesty displays,
Shews us all his glorious face.

H Y M N XIII.

- 1 **L**ET angels and archangel's sing,
The wonderful Immanuel's name,
Adore with us our new-born King,
And still the joyful news proclaim ;
All earth and heaven be ever join'd,
To praise the Saviour of mankind.
- 2 The everlasting God comes down,
To sojourn with the sons of men ;
Without his majesty or crown
The great Invisible is seen :
Of all his dazzling glories shorn,
The everlasting God is born !
- 3 Angels, behold that infant's face,
With rapturous awe the Godhead own,
'Tis all your heaven on him to gaze,
And cast your crowns before his throne ;
Though now he on his footstool lies,
Ye know he built both earth and skies.
- 4 By him into existence brought,
Ye sang the all-creating word ;
Ye heard him call our world from nought ;
Again, in honour of your Lord,
Ye morning stars, your hymns employ,
And shout, ye sons of God, for joy.

H Y M N XIV.

- 1 **O** Astonishing grace,
 That the reprobate race
 Should be reconciléd !
What a wonder of wonders that God is a child ?
- 2 The Creator of all,
 To repair our sad fall,
 From heaven stoops down :
Lays hold of our nature and joins to his own.
- 3 Our Immanuel came,
 The whole world to redeem,
 And incarnated shewéd
That man may again be united to God !
- 4 And shall we not hope,
 After God to wake up,
 His nature to know ?
His nature is sinless perfection below.
- 5 To this heavenly prize,
 By faith let us rise,
 To his image ascend,
Apprehended of God, let us God apprehend.

H Y M N XV.

- 1 **A**LL-WISE, all-good, almighty Lord,
 Jesus, by highest heaven adoréd,
 Ere time its course began,
How did thy glorious mercy stoop,
To take thy fallen nature up,
When thou thyself wert man ?

- 2 The eternal God from heaven came down,
The King of glory dropp'd his crown,
And veil'd his majesty ;
Emptied of all but love he came,
Jesus, I call thee by the name,
The pity bore for me.
- 3 O holy child, still let thy birth
Bring peace to us poor worms on earth,
And praise to God on high !
Come, thou who didst my flesh assume,
Now to the abject sinner come,
And in a manger lie.
- 4 Didst thou not in person join
The natures human and divine,
That God and man might be
Henceforth inseparably one ?
Haste then and make thy nature known
Incarnated in me.
- 5 In my weak, sinful flesh appear,
O God, be manifested here,
Peace, righteousness, and joy ;
Thy kingdom, Lord, set up within
My faithful heart ; and all my sin,
The devil's work destroy.
- 6 I long thy coming to confess,
The mystic power of godliness,
The life divine to prove :
The fulness of thy life to know,
Redeem'd from all my sins below,
And perfected in love.
- 7 O Christ, my hope, make known to me
The great, the glorious mystery,
The hidden life impart,

Come,

Come, thou desire of nations, come,
Forméd in a spotless virgin's womb,
A pure, believing heart.

- 8 Come quickly, dearest Lord, that I
May own, though antichrist deny,
Thy incarnation's power :
May cry, a witness to my Lord,
" Come in my flesh is Christ the Word,
" And I can sin no more !"

H Y M N XVI.

- 1 **O** MERCY divine;
O couldst thou incline,
My God, to become such an infant as *mine* ?
- 2 What a wonder of grace,
The Ancient of days
Is found in the likeness of Adam's frail race !
- 3 He comes from on high,
Who fashioned the sky,
And meekly vouchsafes in a manger to lie.
- 4 Our God, ever blest,
With oxen doth rest,
Is nursed by his creature, and hangs at the breast.
- 5 So heavenly mild,
His innocence smiled,
No wonder the mother should worship the child.
- 6 The angels she knew
Had worshippéd him too,
And still they confess adoration is due.

- 7 On Jesus's face
 With eager amaze,
And pleasures extatic the cherubims gaze.
- 8 Their newly-born King
 Transported they sing,
And heaven and earth with the triumph doth ring.
- 9 The shepherds behold
 Him promised of old
By angels attended, by prophets foretold.
- 10 The wise men adore,
 And bring him their store,
The rich are permitted to follow the poor.
- 11 To the inn they repair,
 To see the young heir :
The inn is a palace ; for Jesus is there.
- 12 Who now would be great,
 And not rather wait
On Jesus, their Lord, in his humble estate ?
- 13 Like him would I be !
 My Master I see
In a stable !—a stable shall satisfy me.
- 14 With him I reside ;
 The manger shall hide
Mine honour : the manger shall bury my pride.
- 15 And here will I lie,
 Till raised up on high,
With him on the cross, I recover the sky.

H Y M N XVII.

- 1 **W**HERE is the holy, heaven-born child?
 Heir of the everlasting throne?
 Who heaven and earth hath reconciled,
 And God and man rejoined in one?
- 2 Shall we of earthly kings enquire?
 To courts or palaces repair?
 The nation's hope, the world's desire,
 Alas! we cannot find him there.
- 3 Shall learning shew the sinner's Friend,
 Or scribes a sight of Christ afford?
 Us to his natal place they send,
 But never go to seek the Lord.
- 4 We search the outward church in vain,
 They cannot him we seek declare,
 They have not found the Son of man,
 Or known the sacred name they bear.
- 5 Then let us turn no more aside,
 But use the light himself imparts,
 His Spirit is our surest guide,
 His Spirit glimmering in our hearts.
- 6 Drawn by his grace we come from far,
 And fix on heaven our wishful eyes
 That Ray divine, that orient Star,
 Directs us where the infant lies.
- 7 See there; the new-born Saviour see,
 By faith discern the great I AM;
 'Tis he! the Eternal God; 'tis he
 That bears the mild Immanuel's name.

- 8 The Prince of peace on earth is found,
The Child is born, the Son is given,
Tell it to all the nations round,
Jehovah is come down from heaven.
- 9 Jehovah is come down to raise
His dying creatures from their fall,
And all may now receive the grace
Which brings eternal life to all.
- 10 Lord, we receive thy grace, and thee
With joy unspeakable receive,
And rise thine open face to see,
And one with God for ever live.

H Y M N XVIII.

- 1 **A**LL glory to God in the sky,
And peace upon earth be restored!
O Jesus, exalted on high,
Appear, our omnipotent Lord!
Who meanly in Bethlehem born,
Didst stoop to redeem a lost race,
Once more to thy creatures return,
And reign in thy kingdom of grace.
- 2 When thou in our flesh didst appear
All nature acknowledg'd thy birth:
Arose the acceptable year,
And heaven was open'd on earth;
Receiving its Lord from above,
The world was united to bless,
The giver of concord and love,
The Prince and the Author of peace.
- 3 O would'st thou again be made known,
Again in thy Spirit descend,
And set up in each of thine own,
A kingdom that never shall end?

Thou

Thou only art able to bless,
And make the glad nation obey,
And bid the dire enmity cease,
And bow the whole world to thy sway.

- 4 Come then to thy servants again,
Who long thy appearing to know,
Thy quiet and peaceable reign
In mercy establish below :
All sorrow before thee shall fly,
And anger and hatred be o'er,
And envy and malice shall die,
And discord afflict us no more.
- 5 No horrid alarm of war,
Shall break our eternal repose,
No sound of the trumpet is there,
Where Jesus's spirit o'erflows :
Appeas'd by the charms of thy grace,
We all shall in amity join,
And kindly each other embrace,
And love with a passion like thine.

F I N I S.

